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HACK, Cornells, Erik [NL/NL]; Van Dijkstraat 21,
NL-1111 ND Diemen (NL).

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(74) Agents: STRÖM, Tore et al.; Ström & Gulliksson IPC
AB, Box 4188, S-203 13 Malmö (SE).

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(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): WIES-
LAB AB [SE/SE]; Ideon, Sölvegatan 41, S-223 70 Lund
(SE).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): ROOS, Johanna
[NL/NL]; Rijnmond 36, NL-2225 VV Katwijk ZH (NL).
DAHA, Mohamed, R. [NL/NL]; Camphuijsendreef 9,
NL-2253 CH Leiderdorp (NL). BOUWMAN, Lee, H.
[NL/NL]; Houtmarkt 4D, NL-2312 PZ Leiden (NL).

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(54) Title: LECTIN PATHWAY DEFICIENCY ASSAY

(57) **Abstract:** The invention refers to an *in vitro* method of functionally determining at physiological conditions deficiencies in the lectin pathway of the complement system, the method comprising the steps of (a) providing a sample of mammalian blood, serum, plasma or another body fluid; (b) preventing in the sample the activation of the classical pathway by contacting the sample with an inhibitor of a molecule of the C1 complex of the complement system; (c) preventing in the sample the activation of the alternative pathway; (d) activating the lectin pathway in the sample; and (e) determining in the sample any activation of the autologous C5b-9 complex. The invention also refers to a kit for functionally determining in a body fluid from a mammal deficiencies in the lectin pathway of the complement system, which kit comprises the separate items (a) an inert carrier and a substance activating the lectin pathway; (b) a diluent comprising an inhibitor of a molecule of the C1 complex; and an antibody against the autologous C5b-9 complex.



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